

CLAIMS:

1. A charging system for charging a charge retentive surface having a width dimension, comprising:

at least one corona producing element, spaced from the charge retentive surface and arranged generally along the width dimension; and

grid elements, interposed between said corona producing element and the charge retentive surface, wherein the grid elements are arranged generally parallel to each other along the width dimension and comprise differentiated grid feature patterns.

2. The charging system of **claim 1**, wherein the differentiated grid feature patterns comprise a plurality of geometric shapes.

3. The charging system of **claim 2**, wherein the plurality of geometric shapes comprise triangular and diamond shapes.

4. The charging system of **claim 1**, wherein the differentiated grid feature patterns comprise the same geometric shape having a plurality of grid mesh opening sizes.

5. The charging system of **claim 4**, wherein the differentiated grid feature patterns comprise the same geometric shape having differentiated feature sizes.

6. The charging system of **claim 4**, wherein each geometric shape has a center point of its opening and wherein the distance between a first set of parallel lines, each line of which intersects the center point of adjoining shapes of a first grid feature pattern, differs from the distance between a second set of parallel lines, each line of which intersects the center point of adjoining features of a second grid feature pattern and each line of which has the same orientation to the shapes of the second feature pattern as the orientation of the first set of parallel lines to the shapes of the first feature pattern.

7. The charging system of **claim 4**, wherein the differentiated grid feature patterns comprise hexagonal patterns of differentiated sizes.

8. The charging system of **claim 1**, further comprising a frame enclosure arranged generally around the corona producing element wherein a grid element comprises essentially one side of the enclosure.

9. The charging system of **claim 8**, wherein the corona producing element comprises a plurality of elements arranged within a plurality of frame enclosures.

10. The charging system of **claim 8**, wherein each of the plurality of grid elements attach to separate frame enclosures.

11. The charging system of **claim 8**, wherein each frame enclosure encloses a plurality of corona producing elements.

12. The charging system of **claim 1**, wherein the charging system comprises a scorotron charging system.

13. The charging system of **claim 1**, wherein the corona producing element comprises a pin array corona producing device.

14. An electrostatographic imaging system, comprising:
a charge retentive surface having a width dimension;
at least one corona producing element, spaced from the charge retentive surface and arranged generally along the width dimension; and
grid elements, interposed between the corona producing element and the charge retentive surface, wherein the grid elements are arranged generally parallel to each other along the width dimension and comprise differentiated grid feature patterns.

15. The electrostatographic imaging system of **claim 14**, wherein the charge retentive surface is a photoreceptor.

16. A method for charging a charge retentive surface having a width dimension, comprising:
electrically charging at least one corona producing element, spaced from the charge retentive surface and arranged generally along the width dimension, sufficiently to emit a corona field;
affecting the corona field by interposing, between the corona producing element and the charge retentive surface, grid elements that are arranged generally parallel to each other along the width dimension and that comprise differentiated grid feature patterns.

17. The method of **claim 16**, wherein the differentiated grid feature patterns comprise a plurality of geometric shapes.

18. The method of **claim 16**, wherein the differentiated grid feature patterns comprise the same geometric shape having differentiated sizes.

19. The method of **claim 16**, wherein the charge producing element comprises a frame enclosure arranged generally around the corona producing element wherein a grid element comprises essentially one side of the enclosure.

20. The method of **claim 19**, wherein each of the plurality of grid elements attach to separate frame enclosures.